(c) Indian Embassy in Bahrain has been holding discussion with workers and management. Part payment has been made to the workers by the foreign employer. The matter has been referred to the local Court.

Houses taken on Lease by the ITDC

1048. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the ITDC has been giving house building loans to its senior executives and also taking their built-up houses on lease basis at handsome price for self-occupation by the same executives;

(b) whether such a practice is legal and in conformity with the guidelines laid down by Government; and

(c) if not, what steps are being taken to stop such malpractice?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (MUFTI MOHD. SAYEED): (a) to (c) The employees including executives of ITDC are eligible for interest bearing house building advance in accordance with the ITDC Employees Housing Loans (Grant & Recovery) Rules, 1976. No such built up house/flat acquired by an employee (either by taking loans or otherwise) has been taken by ITDC on lease for occupation by the same executive.

Appointment of Foreign Nationals by the ITDC etc.

1049. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some foreign nationals are employed in India by the Tourism Promotion Agencies of Government including ITDC on short or long term basis;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof with justification in each case; and

(c) whether prior approval of the Central Government was taken before employing such officials?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (MUFTI MOHD. SAYEED): (a) and (b) In ITDC, there is only one Chinese national who has been employed as a Chef for the Mandarin Room at Hotel Janpath. This Restaurant is a speciality restaurant serving Chinese Cuisine. The Chinese Chef in addition to preparation of Chinese Food is also utilised for imparting training and know-how of Chinese Cuisine to the other food production staff.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Transfer of Lodges and Restaurants to State Tourism Corporations by the ITDC

1050. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) how many lodges and restaurants have so far been transferred to State Tourism Corporations by the ITDC and the reasons for such transfers;

(b) what are the terms of transfer of these properties to the State Tourism Corporations including that of its employees;

(c) whether any complaints have been received from the employees of these lodges and restaurants for non-payment of their dues or for protection of their wages and service benefits; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof and what action has been taken against the erring officials responsible for the delay and violation of the terms of agreement against the interest of transferred employees?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (MUFTI MOHD. SAYEED): (a) With a view to exercising better supervision and control by the respective State Governments/Corporations and integration with the tourism infrastructure in the respective State, ITDC with the approval of Government has so far transferred 10 Travellers' Lodges and 3 Restaurants to the State Corporations.

(b) The broad terms of transfer of ITDC properties are—

(1) Payment to ITDC on the basis of book value; and

(2) Absorption of employees working in such properties by the State Corporations on terms and conditions offered by them.

(c) and (d) So far as ITDC is concerned, no complaint from the employees of its earlier Travellers' Lodges/Restaurants has been received, except, in the case of Kaziranga Forest Lodge which has been transferred to the Government of Assam. A representation from the employees was received in the middle of March, 1987 regarding protection of pay scales, disbursement of contributory provident fund, medical leave encashment and payment of gratuity. Suitable action has been taken by the ITDC on the various issues raised in the representation as per the agreement.

Study Team for Agricultural Workers

1051. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a study team to study the living conditions of agricultural workers in the country has been set up by his Ministry; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and by when the team is likely to submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs has constituted, *inter-alia*, a sub-Committee of the Parliamentary Consultative Committee of the Ministry of Labour for studying and reporting on the problems of unorganised workers in Agricultural Sector. The Sub-Committee consists of eleven Members of Parliament. The Sub-Committee has so far undertaken field visits to Bihar and Madhya Pradesh. The present term of the Sub-Committee is up to 15th June, 1987, by which time it is expected to submit its report.

ILO Report on Unemployment

1052. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the International Labour Organisation has recently pointed out that the burnt of the unemployment problem continues to weigh heavily on the youth of the developing countries;

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto;

(c) whether the main cause of youth unemployment is due to lack of work opportunities; and

(d) if so, what steps are contemplated by Government to provide better employment opportunities to the youths?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) The Indian Labour Conference has recently adopted a Resolution concerning problems faced by young people, particularly, in the area of unemployment.

(b) to (d) In so far as India is concerned, information on magnitude